

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) For use with male and female cooperating teledapt connectors located in a recess with respect to a mounting surface so as to minimize electrostatic discharge between an operator's hand and the connectors, in which the male connector has a main body from which a tongue projects, the tongue being adapted to lie in a groove defined by the female connector, the tongue defining shoulder means which, when the connectors are axially connected, come into contact with abutment means formed in the female connector, said contact with abutment means formed in the female connector, said contact preventing dislodgement of the connectors until pressure is exerted to move the tongue toward said main body to move the shoulder means toward the main body to a sufficient extent to break contact between said shoulder means and said abutment means:

an actuator having an attachment portion and an operative portion, the attachment portion being adapted to mount the operative portion so that the operative portion extends adjacent the tongue and projects out of the recess far enough to be transversely manipulated so as to move the tongue toward said main body such that the shoulder means moves toward said main body far enough to break contact between ~~the shoulder means and with~~ the abutment means.

2. (Currently amended) In combination:

male and female cooperating teledapt connectors located in a recess with respect to a mounting surface so as to minimize electrostatic discharge between an operator's hand and the connectors,

the male connector having a main body from which a tongue projects,

the female connector defining a groove in which said tongue is adapted to lie,

the tongue defining shoulder means which, when the connectors are

axially connected, come into contact with abutment means formed in the female connector, said contact preventing dislodgement of the connectors until the tongue moves toward said main body to move the shoulder means toward the main body, far enough to break contact between the shoulder means and said abutment means,

and an actuator having an attachment portion and an operative portion, the attachment portion being adapted to mount the operative portion so that the operative portion extends adjacent the tongue and projects out of the recess far enough to be manipulated manually transversely so as to move the tongue toward said main body such that the shoulder means moves toward said main body far enough to break contact ~~between the shoulder means and with~~ the abutment means.

3. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 1, in which the attachment portion of the actuator is substantially rectangular, and in which the operative portion is an elongate strap which extends perpendicularly from one rectangular side of the attachment portion.

4. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 3, in which the attachment portion of the actuator is configured for lodgement within the female connector and includes contact means for contacting said abutment means, thereby preventing removal of the actuator in the direction in which the elongate strap projects.

5. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 2, in which the attachment portion of the actuator is pivotally mounted adjacent to the female connector.

6. (Original) The combination claimed in claim 2, in which the attachment portion of the actuator is configured for lodgement within the female connector and includes contact means for contacting said abutment means, thereby preventing removal of the actuator in the direction in which the operative portion projects, the combination further including mounting means for the female connector, the mounting means including buttress means adjacent the female connector at a location opposite the direction in which the operative portion projects, the buttress means preventing the removal of the actuator in the direction opposite the direction in which the operative portion projects.

7. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 2, in which the attachment portion of the actuator has an opening configured to receive the female connector with the operative portion in folded over to extend into the female connector and along the groove.

8. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 1, in which the actuator is made of an electrically conductive material.

9. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 1, in which the actuator is made of an electrically non-conductive material.

10. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 2, in which the actuator is made of an electrically conductive material.

11. (Original) The invention claimed in claim 2, in which the actuator is made of an electrically non-conductive material.